

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEGUCI 02400 192133Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14 NSAE-00 SNM-05
TRSE-00 ICA-20 OES-07 OMB-01 L-03 SSO-00 INRE-00
/075 W

-----048045 192143Z /73

O R 192036Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 422
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
COMDT COGARD
WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM
DEPT OF JUSTICE
DEA WASHDC
DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
COMCUSTOMS WASHDC
INS WASHDC
USCG MIAMI

UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 2400

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: SNAR, EWWT, HO
SUBJ: CREW OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING VESSEL MEIRY

REF: (A) TEGUCIGALPA 2159 (DTG 061504Z MAY 78), (B) COGARD
072130Z MAY 78

1. COAST GUARD REPORTED IN REFTEL B THAT IMMIGRATION AND NATUR-
ALIZATION SERVICE WOULD HOLD COLOMBIAN CREWMEMBERS FOR DEPOR-
TATION OR EXTRADITION. EMBASSY THEREFORE PROMPTLY QUERIED HONDURAS
FOREIGN MINISTRY ORALLY AND BY NOTE WHETHER GOH WANTED THIS CREW
EXTRADITED TO HONDURAS OR DEPORTED TO COLOMBIA.

2. FOREIGN MINISTRY REPLY (NOTE 991 OF MAY 17, 1978) STATES THAT
QUOTE HONDURAS AUTHORITIES CONCUR WITH DEPORTATION OF THE CREW OF
THE MEIRY TO COLOMBIA, UNQUOTE.

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PAGE 02 TEGUCI 02400 192133Z

3. HONDURAS NAVAL FORCES REQUESTED THAT IF USCG MIAMI HAS WAR-
PAGE AVAILABLE IT RETAIN CUSTODY OF MOTOR VESSELS SAN RAFAEL
AND MEIRY FOR UP TO A MONTH RATHER THAN PASSING THEM TO CUSTODY OF
US CUSTOMS SERVICE. EMBASSY EXPLAINED THAT THIS HAS NOT INT
THE PAST BEEN POSSIBLE DUE TO LIMITED WARPAGE AT THE USCG STATION.
HONDURAS NAVAL OFFICER CITED RETENTION BY USCG BOSTON OF MV

JULIANA I WHICH GREATLY FACILITATED GOH TAKING POSSESSION OF THAT VESSEL. HE SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF USCG MIAMI MERELY RETAINING ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL OF SAN RAFAEL AND MEIRY EVEN THOUGH THESE VESSELS MIGHT HAVE TO BE MOVED TO COMMERCIAL WARFARE. THIS WOULD, AS IN CASE OF JULIANA I, MINIMIZE PAPERWORK REQUIRED FOR GOH RECEIPT OF VESSELS. PERHAPS THIS COULD BE DISCUSSED WITH HONDURAS NAVY CAPTAIN CRISTOBAL CANO ON HIS ARRIVAL MIAMI ABOARD JULIANA I ON OR ABOUT MAY 24.
JARAMILLO

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Message Attributes

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